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Hebburn Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1952.

HEBBURN-ON-TYNE:
Printed by SMITH BROS. (Hebburn & Jarrow), Ltd.,
Lyon Street.

1953.

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HEBBURN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

1952—1953.

Chairman.

Coun. W. Bradley, J.P.

Vice-Chairman.

Coun. Mrs. S. McIntyre.

MEMBERS.

West Ward.

Coun. A. J. Iley.
Coun. J. J. Swales.
Coun. Mrs. S. McIntyre.

East Ward.

Coun. J. Spelman.
Coun. W. Brown.
Coun. W. Bradley.

Central Ward.

Coun. J. E. Jenkins.
Coun. R. Heard.
Coun. J. G. Kerr.

Victoria Ward.

Coun. J. Frater.
Coun. T. S. Walls.
Coun. W. Jackson, J.P.

North Ward.

Coun. Mrs. A. Davies, J.P.
Coun Mrs. M. Ford.
Coun. G. Watson.

South Ward.

Coun. J. M. Black, J.P.
Coun. H. L. Bennett.
Coun. W. F. Montgomery.

Monkton Ward.

Coun. R. Fenwick.
Coun. E. French.
Coun. W. Slaughter.

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (part-time)
James N. Swainston, M.B., B.S.

SANITARY INSPECTOR
W. S. Bruce, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR
P. Milne, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

SHORTHAND-TYPIST
Miss J. M. Gibson.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
ARGYLE STREET,
HEBBURN,

To the Chairman and Members of the Hebburn Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MESDAMES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1952, on the Health and Sanitary condition of the District.

I would like to take this opportunity of recording my grateful appreciation for the assistance I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Council, and also from the Staff of the Health and Cleansing Departments.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. N. SWAINSTON,
M.B., B.S.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Statistical Summary and Social Conditions—1952.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Population at 1951 Census—23,169.

Population—Registrar General's Estimate—23,100.

Area of District—1,676.415 acres.

Number of inhabited houses according to rate books—6,898.

Rateable Value—£108,232.

Sum represented by a penny rate—£395.

No. of new houses erected during the year:—

	By Local Authority.	By other Bodies or Persons.	Total.
With State assistance under the Housing Acts ...	47	76	123
Without State assistance ...	—	1	1
Total ...	47	77	124

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	Males.	Females.	Total.	
Live Births (legitimate)	231	191	422	
Live Births (illegitimate)	7	8	15	
Birth Rate per 1,000 population				18.9
Still Births (legitimate)	6	7	13	
Still Births (illegitimate)	1	—	1	
Still Births per 1,000 total births..				32.04
Still Births per 1,000 population				0.61
Deaths	149	104	253	
Death Rate per 1,000 population				10.9

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR.

All infants per 1,000 live births 32.04

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 33.01

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births..... Nil.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes—

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ..... Nil.

Staithe House Inn, Pelaw Main.

Following action by the Council extensive repairs and renovation to the living accommodation, bar and cellar were carried out by the owners of this public house.

17, Rose Street.

A Closing Order was made by the Council on the 17th March, 1952, in respect of the ground floor dwelling in this tenement building. The tenant was subsequently re-housed by the Council.

12Bk/12Bk, 14Bk/14Bk, 16Bk/16Bk, 18Bk/18Bk, 20Bk/20Bk, 22Bk/22Bk, 24Bk/24Bk, 26Bk/26Bk, 28/28Bk, Station Road.

Closing Orders were made by the Council on the 10th July, 1952, in respect of 18 first floor tenement dwellings, each of two rooms. Several of the tenants had been re-housed by the Council by the end of the year.

SLUM CLEARANCE.

On the 10th July, 1952, the Council made The Hebburn (Edward Street) Clearance Order comprising 43 dwelling-houses (172 persons). Objections were lodged by the owners and a Public Inquiry was held by the Minister of Local Government and Housing early in 1953. The Minister subsequently confirmed the Order without modification.

RE-HOUSING.

During the year, allocation of Council houses were made as follows:—

New houses occupied	123
Houses re-let	22
Aged persons cottages re-let	1
N.E.H.A. houses re-let	6
Joint tenancies granted	7
Total	167

In addition 33 exchanges were approved of by the Housing Committee.

All Allocations, with the exception of 4 tenants of properties sbject to Closing or Demolition Orders, were made from the Council's Housing Lists in accordance with their points scheme.

Inspection and Supervision of Food and Food Premises.

MILK SUPPLY.

At the end of the year there were 56 registered distributors, namely, 48 for the sale of sterilised milk, 4 for pasteurised milk, 1 for Tuberculin Tested milk, and 3 for T.T. Pasteurised Milk.

ICE CREAM.

During the year 2 premises were registered for the sale of ice-cream under the provisions of Section 14, Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

There are at present 38 premises registered in the district, 3 for manufacture and sale, and 35 for retail sale only.

MEAT.

All slaughtering is centralised at Newcastle under Ministry of Food control.

FOOD PREMISES.

All food preparing and retail premises (including works canteens) continue to be inspected regularly and any infringements of the Food and Drugs Act or the Council's Byelaws are immediately brought to the attention of the proprietors.

Advice is given to occupiers at the time of inspection, but in 13 instances it was necessary to give written intimation of infringements of the Act and Byelaws.

Some concern is felt regarding travelling food shops and baker's delivery vans. It the latter case, on a number of occasions, drivers were observed handling cream cakes and bread, etc., during delivery to shops. This is a common practice and is most unsatisfactory, as no facilities are provided for the washing of hands.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

A local firm of bakers were summoned under Section 9 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for having in their possession in the bakery a quantity of tinned fruit which was unfit for human consumption.

It was necessary to seize the foodstuffs and have it dealt with by a magistrate under Section 10 of the Act.

The firm was fined £10 and the manager £1.

UNSOUND FOOD.

The following foodstuffs were found unfit for human consumption during the year :—

Meat.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Number.
Beef (imported)	1	0	22	
Beef (Home killed)	4	0	11	
Pork			20	
Canned and Bottled Foods.				
Chicken			4	
Cooking fat			4	
Fish			5	
Fruit		2	21	
Ham (cooked)		3	16	
Jam			5	
Kidney			4	
Luncheon Meat	1	1	23	
Milk				13 tins
Pickles				17 jars
Rabbit			1	
Stewed steak			14	
Soups			4	
Veal, jellied			18	
Vegetables	3	1	11	
Provisions.				
Bacon		1	7	
Barley			14	
Cheese			6	
Corn flakes				16 Pkts.
Currants			18	
Figs			10	
Rolled oats				55 Pkts.
Yeast			8	
Total	13	0	22	

A large quantity of dried milk powder consigned to the Central School kitchen and found to contain brown particles, was submitted for laboratory examination. The particles were found to be caramelised dried milk, the powder being perfectly wholesome and was passed fit for human consumption

FOOD ANALYSIS.

Return of Samples submitted for Analysis from the Urban District of Hebburn by Durham County Council, during the year ending 31st December, 1952.

No. of Sample.	Article.	Result of Analysis.
14	Milk	Genuine.
2	Tea	do.
2	Sugar	do.
1	Epsom Salts	do.
1	Cornflour	do.
1	Blackcurrant Jam, FFS.	do.
1	Strawberry Jam, FFS.	do.
1	Lentils	do.
1	Table Jelly	do.
1	Battacrisp Mixture	do.
2	Malt Vinegar	do.
1	Semolina	do.
1	Plum Jam, FFS.	do.
1	Butter	do.
1	Bacon	do.
1	Sweetened Cake Flour	do.
1	Barley Kernels	do.
1	Laxative Tablets	do.
1	Liquid Paraffin	do.
1	Cascara Sagrada Tablets	do.
1	Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine ...	do.

W. S. BRUCE, M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.,

Sanitary Inspector.

DEATHS.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	30
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea & Enteritis (under 2 years)	1

POPULATION.

The census taken during 1951 showed a population of 23,169. The Registrar General's estimate of population was 23,100. A decrease of 40 from the previous year.

BIRTH RATE.

The Birth Rate was 18.9 compared with 19.1 for 1951.

There were 437 live births compared with 446 in 1951, a decrease of 9 The live Births rate for England and Wales was 15.3.

In addition there were 15 still births, representing a Still Birth Rate of 32.04 per 1,000 total births (live and still). The rate for 1951 was 40.8. There were 15 illegitimate births compared with 11 in 1951.

DEATH RATE.

The Death Rate shows a decrease from 11.7 in 1951 to 10.9 in 1952. The total number of deaths of Hebburn residents was 252 compared with 271 in 1951, a decrease of 18. The death rate for England and Wales was 11.3.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There was a fall in the death rate of infants under 1 year of age from 51.5 per 1,000 live births in 1951 to 32.04 last year

The rate for England and Wales in 1951 was 27.6.

There were 14 deaths of infants under 1 year of age, and of these 11 died within the first four weeks of life. The comparable figures for 1951 were 23 and 11.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were no deaths from causes due to childbirth during the year.

DIARRHOEA AND ENTERITIS (Under 2 years).

There was one death from this cause, giving a rate of 2.49 per 1,000 live births. The Rate for England and Wales was 1.1.

Vital Statistics of Hebburn for Previous Years.

Year.	Population.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Infant Mortality Rate.
1906	23,336	34.8	16.0	136
1916	23,060	30.2	15.6	104
1926	26,190	26.6	11.8	97
1936	22,939	18.7	13.3	90.7
1937	22,700	16.9	12.7	67.9
1938	22,950	19.0	11.7	69.0
1939	23,490	17.6	12.0	48.3
1940	21,770	20.4	14.3	65.3
1941	22,200	18.0	15.5	128.4
1942	21,950	18.7	13.1	80
1943	21,760	20.7	13.7	64
1944	22,290	22.1	13.8	56
1945	22,250	19.3	11.5	48
1946	22,780	22.0	12.8	67.6
1947	22,750	22.1	12.3	65.6
1948	22,990	20.0	10.8	32.4
1949	23,050	21.08	10.6	34.9
1950	22,990	19.1	11.5	40.1
1951	23,140	19.2	11.7	51.5
1952	23,100	18.9	10.9	32.04

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There was an increase in the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during 1952, namely, 824 compared with 789 in 1951. The increase was largely due to the incidence of measles and to a lesser extent to an increase in the number of cases of scarlet fever.

The number of deaths due to infectious disease was 37 compared with 16 in 1951.

Malaria.

One seaman had an attack when his ship was docked in Hebburn. He was admitted to hospital.

Poliomyelitis.

One case was confirmed during the year.

DIPHTHERIA.

1 case was notified and admitted to hospital. There were no deaths.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

During the year 185 children under 1 year of age, 146 between the ages of 1 and 4, and 25 schoolchildren received their primary immunisation course. A further 132 children received a re-inforcing dose of serum.

VENEREAL DISEASE.

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the following information, relating to the number of patients from the Hebburn Urban District who were treated at the Newcastle and South Shields Clinics during 1952.

	Syphilis.		Soft Sore.		Gonorrhoea.		Non-Venereal.		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Newcastle ...	3	4	—	—	5	6	14	2	22	12
South Shields	2	3	—	—	4	1	12	4	18	8
Total ...	5	7	—	—	9	17	26	6	40	20

The total number attending in 1951 was 53 males and 18 females.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Respiratory Tuberculosis.—52 notifications were received compared with 39 in 1951.

There were 9 deaths compared with 14 last year.

Non-respiratory Tuberculosis.—6 notifications were received compared with 7 in 1951.

There were 2 deaths compared with 2 last year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES: Table Showing Age incidence, Deaths, &c.

Disease.	Number of cases notified (Corrected Figures.)										Hospital.	Deaths.
	All ages.	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 & over		
Scarlet Fever	61	—	1	18	30	10	1	1	—	—	61	—
Whooping Cough ...	102	14	34	31	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Measles	602	40	178	213	614	5	2	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	4	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	4	—
Pneumonia	52	5	—	4	2	2	4	10	20	2	14	9
Dysentery	—										—	—
Small-pox	—										—	—
Acute encephalitis ...	—										—	—
Typhoid Fever	—										—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ...	—										—	—
Meningococcal infection...	—										—	—
Food Poisoning	—										—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—										—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—										—	—
Malaria	1						—	1	—		—	—
Erysipelas	2						—	1	1		—	—

FOOD POISONING.

There were no cases or suspected cases of food poisoning during the year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948—SECTION 47.

It was not necessary to take any action under this section during the year.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN HEBBURN, 1952.

	Males	Females	Total	% of Total Deaths
Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	3	6	9	3.5
Tuberculosis, other	2	—	2	1·6
Syphilitic disease	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	—	1	0.39
Meningococcal infection ...	—	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	12	1	13	5.1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	—	—	—	5.9
Malignant neoplasm, breast...	—	1	1	0.39
Malignant neoplasm, uterus...	—	1	1	0.39
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	4	11	4.3
Leukæmia, aleukæmia ...	—	—	—	—
Diabetes	—	1	1	0.39
Vascular lesions of nervous system	16	17	33	13.04
Coronary disease, angina ...	26	11	37	14.6
Hypertension with heart disease	4	2	6	2.3
Other heart disease	16	15	31	12.2
Other circulatory disease ...	8	2	10	3.7
Influenza	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	7	1	9	3.4
Bronchitis	13	3	16	6.3
Other diseases of respiratory system	—	—	—	—
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	1	1	2	0.7
Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea	1	—	1	0.39
Nephritis and nephrosis ...	—	1	1	0.39
Hyperplasia of prostate ...	4	—	4	1.5
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformations ...	4	1	5	1.9
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	—	—	—	—
Motor vehicle accidents ...	14	21	35	13.4
All other accidents	—	—	—	—
Suicide	—	1	1	0.39
Homicide & operations of war	—	—	—	—
All causes ...	147	104	251	

Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case Rates for Certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1952.

England and Wales, London, 160 Great Towns, 160 Smaller Towns and Hebburn U.D.

(Provisional Figures based on Quarterly Returns).

	England and Wales	160 County Boroughs & Great Towns (Including London)	160 Smaller Towns Resident Population 25,000-50,000 at 1951 Census	London Administrative County	Hebburn
Births.	**Rates per 1,000 Home Population.**				
Live	15.3	16.9	15.5	17.6	18.9
Still	0.35	0.43	0.36	0.34	0.61
Deaths.					
All causes	11.3	12.1	11.2	12.6	10.9
Typhoid and paratyphoid Fevers	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Tuberculosis	0.25	0.28	0.22	0.31	0.47
Influenza	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.05	—
Smallpox	0.00	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (inc. Polioencephalitis) ...	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	—
Pneumonia	0.47	0.52	0.43	0.58	0.38
Notifications (corrected).					
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Paratyphoid Fever ...	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.01	—
Meningococceal Infection	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02	—
Scarlet Fever	1.53	1.75	1.58	1.56	2.64
Whooping Cough ...	2.61	2.74	2.57	1.66	4.41
Diphtheria	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.17
Erysipelas	0.14	0.15	0.12	0.14	0.08
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	—
Measles	8.86	10.11	8.49	9.23	26.06
Pneumonia	0.72	0.80	0.62	0.57	2.25
Acute Poliomyeltis (including Polioencephalitis).					
Paralytic	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.04
Non-paralytic	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	—
Food Poisoning	0.13	0.16	0.11	0.18	—
Deaths.	**Rates per 1,000 Live Births.**				
All causes under 1 year of age	27.6 (a)	31.2	25.8	23.8	32.04
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age...	1.1	1.3	0.5	0.7	2.49
Notifications (corrected).	**Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.**				
Puerperal fever & pyrexia	17.87(a)	23.94(a)	10.22(a)	30.77(a)	—

(a) per 1,000 related live births.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Clinic.	Situation.	Sessions.	Provided by.
Maternity & Child Welfare	Argyle Street, Hebburn.	Children under Five—Tuesdays, a.m.	Durham County Council.
,, ,,		Ante-Natal—Tuesday, p.m.	
,, ,,	,, ,,	Children under Five—Tuesdays, p.m.	,, ,,
,, ,,	,, ,,	Ante and Post-Natal—Wednesdays, a.m. to p.m.	,, ,,
,, ,,	,, ,,	Children under Five—Fridays, a.m.	,, ,,
,, ,,	,, ,,	Ante-Natal—Fridays, p.m.	,, ,,
,, ,,	,, ,,	Children under Five—Fridays, p.m.	,, ,,
School Medical Service.	,, ,,	School Children—Mondays, a.m. to p.m.	,, ,,
,, ,,	,, ,,	School Children—Thursdays, a.m. to p.m.	,, ,,
Tuberculosis Dispensary.	Homer Villa, St. John's Terrace, Jarrow.	Women's & Girls—Mondays, a.m. to p.m.	Newcastle Regional Hospital Board.
		Men & Boys—Wednesdays, a.m. to p.m.	,, ,,
Venereal Diseases.	General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle, 4.	Male & Female—Mondays to Fridays,— 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.	,, ,,
		Saturdays— 11 a.m. to 12 noon. 4-30 p.m. to 6-30 p.m.	,, ,,

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

W. S. BRUCE, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I.

For the Year ended 31st December, 1952.

WATER SUPPLY.

Water is supplied to the district by the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company, and has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.

A piped water supply is available to all premises in the area, but in a considerable number of the older dwelling houses the supply is from a stand pipe situated in the rear yard and shored by several tenants.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

All sewage is discharged into the River Tyne without treatment. No major stoppages or defects occurred during the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There are 6,582 water closets and 4 ash closets in the area. A further reduction in the number of ash closets is expected during the next twelve months.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.

This service is carried out by the Cleansing Department with whom close co-operation is maintained.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

There are only two small watercourses in the Hebburn Area, both of these have been regularly inspected.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

The following is a summanry of complaints and visits of inspection, etc., made during the year:—

Complaints received	259
Nuisances	63
Drainage, Inspection and Testing	85
Sewerage	7

Council houses	197
Rehousing	831
Housing disrepair	438
Housing survey	168
Overcrowding	6
Food premises	169
Food inspection	84
Licensed premises	40
Canteens	14
Ice cream premises	18
Milk shops and dairies	14
Water supply	16
Factories	75
Rodent control	97
Infectious diseases	77
Verminous and dirty premises	53
Refuse accommodation	61
Sanitary accommodation	20
Atmospheric pollution	73
Keeping of animals	7
Watercourses and streams	4
Miscellaneous visits	61
Revisits	695

NUISANCES AND DEFECTS REMEDIED.

Buildings.

Roofs and spouting: overhauled and repaired	186
Floors and skirtings: repaired and renewed	54
Internal walls and ceilings: repaired and renewed	99
External walls: repaired and pointed	59
Chimneys, fireplaces and ranges: repaired and renewed	51
Doors, stair, windows and sashcords: repaired and renewed	94
Scullery sinks and benches: repaired and renewed	37
Food stores: repaired and provided	19
Dampnes in walls remedied	73

Sanitary Accommodation and Drainage.

Waterclosets and choked drains: cleared	42
Waterclosets basins and fittings: repaired and renewed	54
Gullies and gratings: renewed	10
Waste pipes: repaired and renewed	24

WASHING ACCOMMODATION.

Washing facilities: provided	9
Wash-boilers, firebars, etc.: repaired and renewed	12

YARDS AND OUTBUILDINGS.

Yard paving: repaired	13
Yard walls and doors: repaired and renewed	39
Outbuildings: repaired and re-built	77

OTHER NUISANCES.

Water supply pipes and fittings: repaired and renewed	11
Dustbins: renewed	45
Accumulations of refuse: removed	3
Keeping of animals	1
Dirty premises: Cleansed	2
Miscellaneous nuisances abated	9
TOTAL	973

Number of Informal Notices served	392
Number of Statutory Notices served (Public Health Acts)	143

In seven instances the Owners failed to carry out the requirements of the Statutory Notices of the Council within the time specified.

These cases were reported to the Council for enforcement and given seven days to commence the works for the abatement of the nuisances.

In four cases the notices were complied with, but it was necessary to take legal proceedings against the remaining owners.

Summonses were obtained and the works were completed before the hearing in each case and the summonses were withdrawn.

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

A marked decrease has been noted in the number of houses which were found to be bug infested.

In no case was it necessary for the Council to take action for disinfestation of premises.

Insecticide is issued free of cost to householders, and when premises were vacant the in-going tenant was encouraged to spray the house after removel of old wall paper, etc., as a precautionary measure. This method was found to be most effective.

31 Council houses which became vacant were sprayed prior to occupation by in-going tenants.

LODGING HOUSES.

There are now no common lodging houses in Hebburn. A Workmen's Hostel which is privately owned continues to be maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Part of this Hostel is used for the temporary accommodation of native crews awaiting the repair or completion of their vessels.

Frequent visits were necessary for the purpose of surveillance, these seamen often arriving by air direct from smallpox areas overseas.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

In accordance with Circular 120 of the Ministry of Health, periodic inspections were made of places of public entertainment all of which are maintained in a satisfactory condition.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

77 visits were made to cases of infectious diseases, notified to the Medical Officer of Health. Disinfection was carried out where necessary.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

The two gauges set up in Hebburn for recording atmospheric deposit operated continously during the 12 months.

One Statutory Notice was served during the year on a local firm to abate a smoke nuisance. The firm took suitable action to comply with the Notice.

ANALYSES OF DEPOSIT IN TWO GAUGES.

	Palmers Hebburn.		Cemetery.	
	Total for 12 Months	Monthly Average	Total for 12 Months	Monthly Average
Rainfall (inches)	24.19	2.01	25.22	2.10
	English tons per square mile			
Total Insoluble Matter ...	117.66	9.80	111.65	9.30
Tar	1.41	0.12	1.53	0.13
Ash	86.69	7 22	82.96	6.91
Other Combustible Matter	29.56	2.46	27.16	2.26
Total Soluble Matter ...	79.06	6.59	83.34	6.94
Lime as Ca	8.24	0.69	9.31	0.77
Sulphate as SO_4 ...	20.27	1.69	20.65	1.72
Chlorine as Cl	18.93	1.58	17.33	1.44
Total Solids (in tons) Collected	196.72	16 38	194 99	16.25

RODENT CONTROL—PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

26 complaints of infestations of rats and mice were notified during the year and 97 visits paid by inspectors in connection therewith.

There were 22 minor infestations of rats and 5 infestations of mice.

Dwelling houses, etc	19
Business premises	5
Local Authority	3

A trained employee of the Cleansing Department is engaged part time in dealing with infestations, laying baits, etc., under the direction of the Sanitary Inspector.

One full treatment of the Council's sewers, refuse tip and depot was carried out and a further one commenced at the end of the year.

FACTORIES ACT.

(1) Inspections.

The following inspections of factories were made during the year:—

Premises.	Number on Register.	Inspections.	Notices. Writtten	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	14	9	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	55	57	2	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises) ...	11	9	—	—
Total ...	80	75	2	—

Action taken in respect of defects found in the course of inspection:—

Number of cases in which defects were found.

Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.	Referred. To H.M. Inspector.	Referred. By H.M. Inspector.	Number of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—					
(a) insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	1	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	3	2	—	1	—

(2) Means of Escape in Case of Fire.

2 amended certificates were issued during the year.

Housing.

HOUSES.

123 houses were built with State Assistance, and occupied during the year.

(1) INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES.

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts 467

   (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 1,605

2. (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925 & 1932 75

   (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 168

3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health so as to be unfit for human habitation 4

4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 25

(2) REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or its officers 261

(3) ACTION UNDER STATUTORY NOTICES.

(A). Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which "notices" were served requiring repairs ..... Nil.

(ii) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners ..... Nil.

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners Nil.

(B). Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which "notices" were served requiring defects to be remedied 143

(ii) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners 131

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners Nil.

(C). Proceedings under Section 11 & 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ..... Nil.

(ii) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ..... Nil.

(iii) Number of dwelling houses closed but not demolished (Housing Act, 1949, Section 3)..... Nil.

(D). Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Acts, 1936:—

(i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made 19

(ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ..... Nil.

(4) Number of houses Permanently Discontinued as Dwellings and not included above 1

HOUSING ACT, 1949 (SECTION 20).

(A) Number of separate dwelling houses in respect of which application for grants have been received Nil.

(B) Number of separate dwelling houses in respect of which applications for grant have been approved Nil.

UNFIT HOUSES.

The following unfit dwelling houses were dealt with during the year:—